

Overview of Education Relief Aid

Andy MacCracken, Policy Analyst May 11, 2021

About NCPRO

Our mission is to ensure North Carolina recovers from the coronavirus pandemic stronger, more resolved, and more resilient.

- Created by S.L. 2020-4 to:
 - "oversee and coordinate" aid from federal COVID-19 recovery legislation
 - "provide technical assistance and ensure coordination of federal funds"
 - "ensure proper reporting and accounting of all funds"
- Administering:
 - Coronavirus Relief Fund
 - Governors Emergency Education Relief Fund
 - State Fiscal Recovery Fund*



^{*} Pending legislative action

Overview of Federal Packages

	Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act	Coronavirus Response & Relief Suppl. Approp. (CRRSA) Act	American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act
Enacted	March 27, 2020	December 27, 2020	March 11, 2021
Package Scope	\$2.2 trillion	\$900 billion	\$1.9 trillion
Education aid*	\$34.25 billion	\$87.79 billion	\$137.76 billion
Notes on education and state aid	 Establishes Education Stabilization Fund programs: Elementary and Secondary Schools Emergency Relief (ESSER) fund Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) Governors Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund Aid via Child Care & Development Block Grant (CCDBG) \$150 billion in aid to state and local governments via Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) 	 Invests additional funds into CCDBG, ESSER, HEERF, and GEER. Establishes Emergency Assistance for Non-public Schools (EANS) program. 	 Vastly expands investments into CCDBG, ESSER and HEERF. ESSER requires focus on learning loss Includes aid for IDEA and homeless children \$350 billion in aid state and local governments. State Fiscal Recovery Fund (SFRF) Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (LFRF)

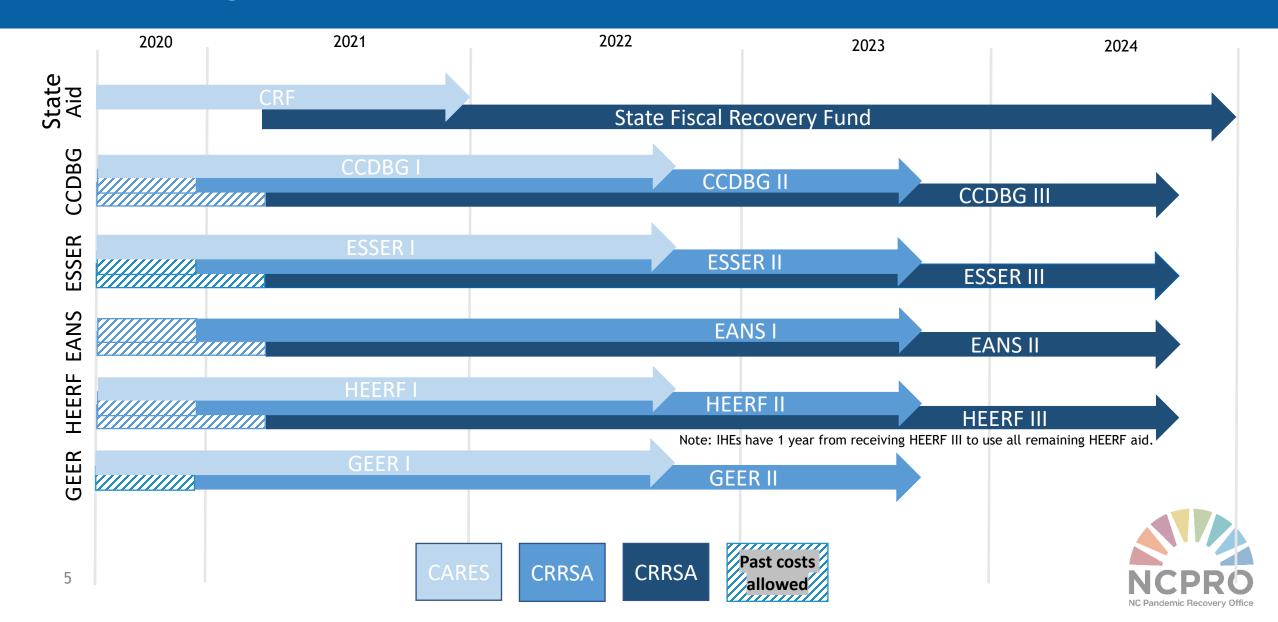
^{*}Total includes Education Stabilization Funds (ESSER, HEER, etc.) and CCDBG

NC Share of Education Relief Aid

	CCDBG	ESSER	EANS	HEERF	GEER	State Aid*
Total Funding	\$1.8 billion	\$6.0 billion	\$167 million	\$2.3 billion	\$138 million	\$8.9 billion
Method of Allocation	Block grant to DHHS	90% to PSUs; 10% flexible by state	By application	Direct to IHE from USED	Directed by Gov. Cooper	Allocated by NCGA
Admin by	DCDEE	NCDPI	NCDPI	IHEs	NCPRO	NCPRO / OSBM
Uses	COVID response; aid to providers; family subsidies	Broad set of uses for districts to respond to public health needs, and address learning loss, emotional wellbeing, etc.	covident cov	Broad support for COVID response, lost revenue, and emergency student aid	Aid to support K-12 districts, IHEs, and education entities impacted by COVID-19	NCGA allocated \$587m from CARES aid (CRF) to childcare, K-12, and higher ed.

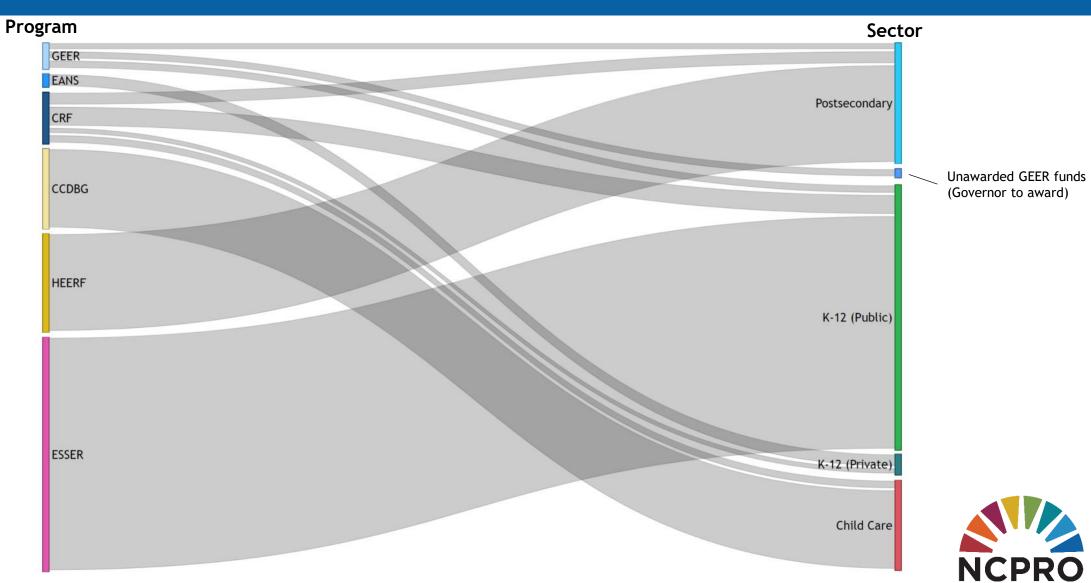


Timing of use



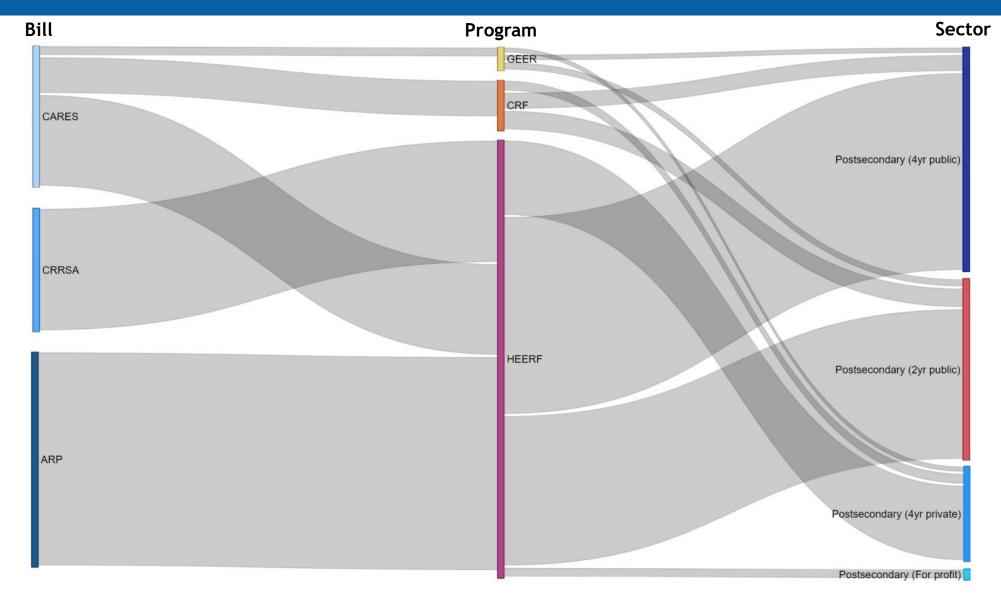
\$10B+ education aid in NC by sector

As of 5/7/21



Postsecondary aid by sector

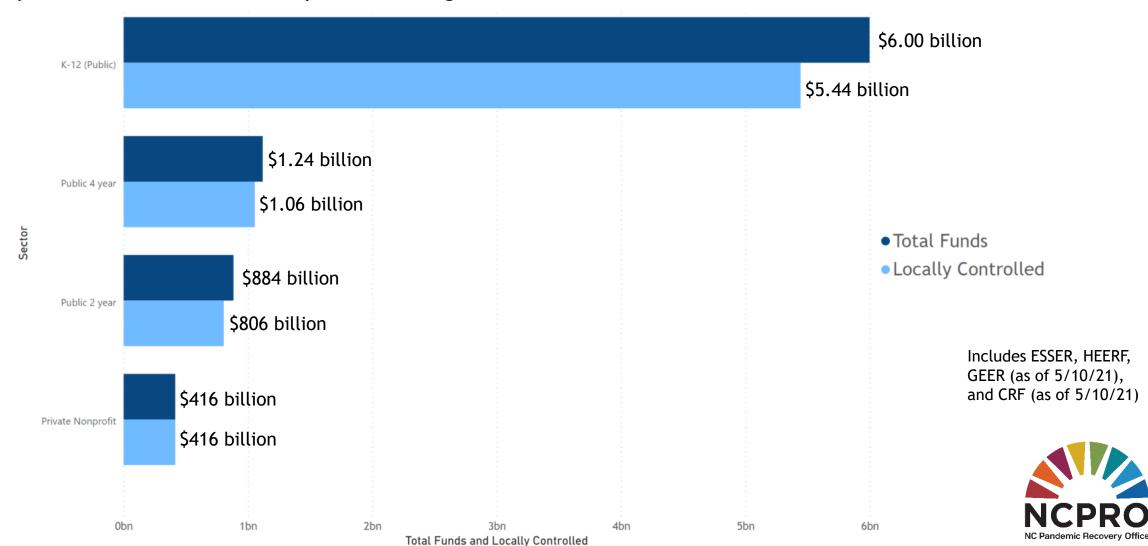
- Funds allocated as of 5/7/21
- HEERF III (ARP) is estimated based on HEERF II (CRRSA) figures.





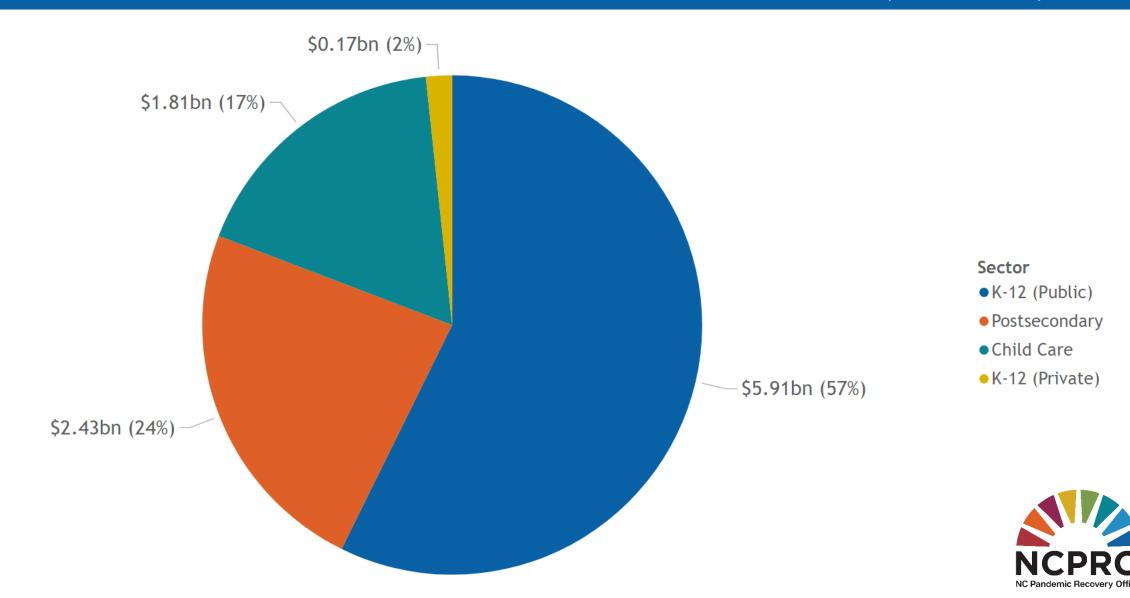
Opportunity for local innovation

Nearly all funds are directed to passed-through to local entities.



Total funding by sector

(Note: \$ billions)



Other relief resources for students



Support for food-insecure students

Students who are eligible for work-study programs or have \$0 EFC are <u>temporarily</u> eligible to access **SNAP benefits**. The expanded eligibility is in effect until 30 days after the national public health emergency declaration is lifted. USDA has also made it easier for K-12 schools to **feed students through "summer" flexibility**.



Housing and utilities aid

Students are eligible to apply for **rental and utilities assistance** to avoid eviction or utility shutoff through the NC HOPE Program. This is funded through a mix of Coronavirus Relief Funds and the Emergency Rental Assistance Program.



Broadband connectivity

Pell recipients are eligible for the Emergency Broadband Benefit program, which **subsidizes internet** costs up to \$50/month. The program includes up to \$100 toward the purchase of a device, limited at 1 per household.



Pause on student loan repayment

US Dept. of Education has stopped student loan interest accrual, repayment, and collections activities through September 30, 2021. Zero payment during these months count toward income-based repayment and forgiveness programs.



What's next?

Action	Funding Amount	Entity	
Award remaining GEER funds	\$51M	Governor	
Allocate State Fiscal Recovery Funds	\$5.2B	Legislation	
Allocate Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	\$3.4B	Local Governments	
Allocate ESSER III holdback	\$359M	SBE (or legislation)	



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